DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

Mγ	residence,	post	office	address	and	citizenship	are as	stated	be	low	next	to	my	name;	tnat	
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specification of which:	XCHANGER CONSTRUCTION AN	DIMETHOD		, the
X is attached hereto.	was filed on			
	as Application Serial No.			
	and was amended on	(if applicable)		
the claims, as amended by a be the original and first inven acknowledge the duty to dis on the back) of Title 37 of th	nave reviewed and understand the ny amendment specifically referra tor(s) of the subject matter which close information which is mater ne Code of Federal Regulations.	ed to above, and that I be n is claimed and for which rial to patentability in acc	alleve the named a patent is soug ordance with §1	inventor(s) to ht, and hereby .56 (reprinted
l also hereby state to to the United States of Ame	nat no patent applications on this rica, except as follows:	invention have previously	y been filed in co	untries foreigr
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE FILED (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAI 35 U.S.	
GERMANY	DE 101 14 078.9	22, March 2001	yes <u>X</u>	no
			yes	no
			yes	no
below and, insofar as the su States application in the mar the duty to disclose material between the filing date of the	enefit under Title 35, United Statubject matter of each of the clair nner provided by the first paragra Il information as defined in Title ne prior application and the nation	ns of this application is n ph of Title 35, United Sta 37, Code of Federal Regu nal or PCT international f	ot disclosed in tates Code §112, plations, §1.56 villing date of this	ne prior Unite I acknowledg which occurre application:
below and, insofar as the su States application in the matthe duty to disclose materia	ibject matter of each of the clain nner provided by the first paragra Il information as defined in Title	ns of this application is n ph of Title 35, United Sta 37, Code of Federal Regu nal or PCT international f	ot disclosed in that ites Code §112, ilations, §1.56 v	ne prior Unite I acknowledg which occurre application:
below and, insofar as the su States application in the mar the duty to disclose material between the filing date of the	ubject matter of each of the clain nner provided by the first paragra Il information as defined in Title ne prior application and the nation	ns of this application is naph of Title 35, United Sta 37, Code of Federal Regunal or PCT international fi	ot disclosed in tates Code §112, plations, §1.56 villing date of this	he prior Unite I acknowledg which occurre application: g, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Tost office / darose s	// Modified Methods of the Company o
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§1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
 - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
 - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentability defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor.